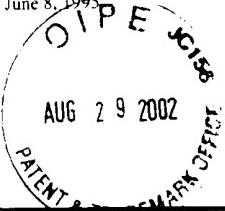


**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number:	09/825,446
Filing Date	April 4, 2001
First Named Inventor	NAKAMURA, Keishi et al.
Group Art Unit	2832
Name of Examiner	Karl D. Easthom
Attorney Docket No.	010481

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat.

1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted

- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on August 1, 2002
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

- iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

- i. Amendment/Reply
ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
iv. Other: Petition for Additional Extension of Time

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340

- i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
ii. Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
iii. Other _____

- b. Check in the amount of \$1,260.00 (\$740 filing fee and \$520 extension fee) is enclosed.

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PAGE 2



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Atty Docket No.

010481

SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name **Donald W. Hanson** **Registration No.** **27,133 (atty/agent)**

Signature **Date** August 29, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature